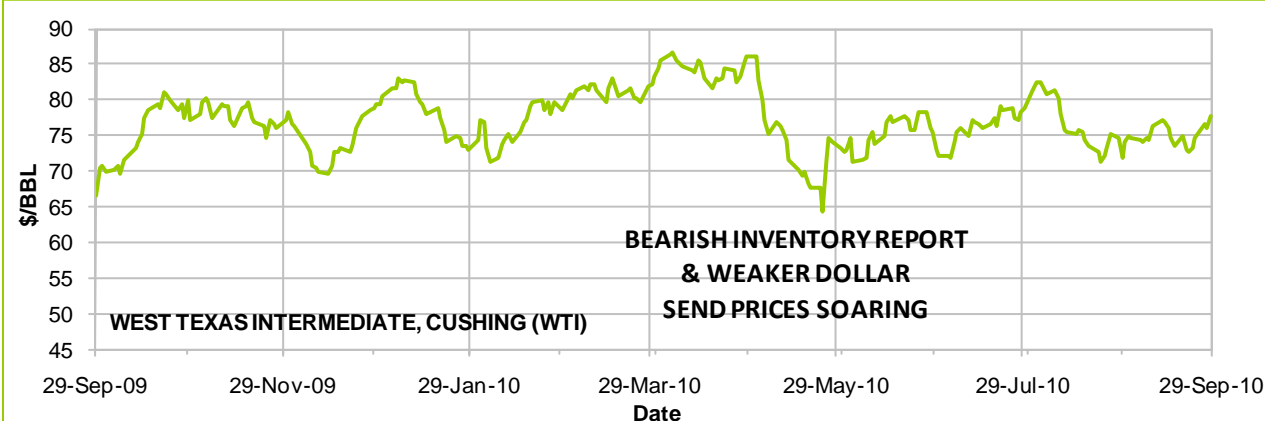


Crude Oil



Crude inventories fell by 0.475 million barrels this week, slightly more than the expected decline of 0.4 million but in sharp contrast to the 5-year average gain of 1.1 million barrels. Despite the larger than expected decline, crude stocks are 5.9% above last year and 13.0% above the 5-year average. Inventory levels are at their highest level for this date since 1990 and are at their second highest level ever for the time period.

Crude prices soared this week from the bearish inventory reports for crude and finished petroleum products. Spot prices and futures prices were up \$5.03 and \$2.45 for the week and they have risen by about \$5.80 over the previous 5 weeks. The spot price settled at \$77.83, \$11.30 (17.0%) higher than a year ago. Futures prices were at \$81.83, \$12.39 (17.8%) higher than last year. Both prices are about 45% below their 2008 peak prices.



Natural Gas



Inventories grew by 74 BCF this week, 9% higher than the expected 68 BCF and 10% above the 5-year average gain of 67 BCF. Over the past 28 weeks inventories have grown by 1,799 BCF, 7.7% higher than the normal gain of 1,671 BCF. At 3,314 BCF, this week's inventory level is 6.3% above the 5-year average but trails last year's record high of 3,580 BCF by 4.6%. Inventories remain at high levels despite U.S. cooling degrees days running 22% above normal this year.

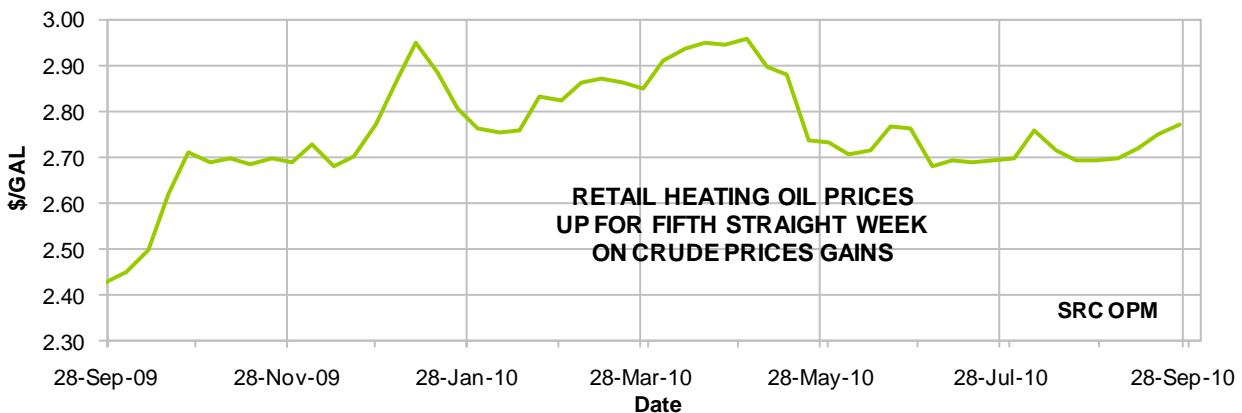
With mild weather, no storm threats, and high inventories, futures prices fell by 3.9 cents this past week after falling by 11.5 cents the week before. At \$4.328 per million BTU, they are 26.9% lower than a year ago and 67.5% below their 2008 peak. Spot prices fell by 21.0 cents this past week and by 97 cents over the past 8 weeks. At \$3.810 per million BTU, they are 15.8% higher than a year ago but 71.4% below their 2008 peak price.





Distillate stocks fell unexpectedly by 1.3 million barrels this week compared to an anticipated gain of 0.3 million and a 5-year average decline of only 0.2 million. Despite the sharp decline, stocks are 1.5% above last year and are still at a record high for this date, 21.3% above the five-year average.

Prices are following crude upward. The 12 month strip rose by 7.8 cents this week and 19.4 cents over the past 5 weeks. It is now at \$2.250/gal, 42.9 cents (23.5%) higher than a year ago. The spot price rose by 8.9 cents this week and 21.5 cents over the past five. At \$2.176 /gal, it is 49.9 cents (29.7%) above last year. Prices are about 46% below their 2008 peaks. Retail prices rose by 2.3 cents this week and 8.1 cents over the past 5 weeks as higher crude prices pushed up retail prices. Retail prices are now at \$2.773/gal. They are 34.4 cents (14.1%) above a year ago but are \$1.994 (41.8%) below their 2008 peak price. The highest price in this week's survey was \$3.299 and the lowest was \$2.399. According to census data, 49.1% of dwelling units in Connecticut heat with oil.



Connecticut Regional Heating Oil Prices

	FAIRFIELD			HARTFORD			NEW LONDON		
	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW
28-Sep-09	2.585	2.999	2.299	2.417	2.999	2.049	2.391	2.600	2.139
13-Sep-10	2.860	3.249	2.500	2.731	3.199	2.399	2.703	2.920	2.480
20-Sep-10	2.878	3.279	2.500	2.758	3.199	2.449	2.725	2.950	2.520
27-Sep-10	2.898	3.299	2.500	2.800	3.199	2.399	2.738	2.950	2.560
	LITCHFIELD			MIDDLESEX			TOLLAND-WINDHAM		
	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW	AVG	HIGH	LOW
28-Sep-09	2.397	2.499	2.289	2.469	2.599	2.299	2.391	2.599	2.250
13-Sep-10	2.641	2.749	2.549	2.744	2.849	2.599	2.644	2.749	2.449
20-Sep-10	2.709	2.799	2.599	2.765	2.899	2.640	2.688	2.819	2.499
27-Sep-10	2.739	2.799	2.649	2.795	2.899	2.690	2.709	2.799	2.549
	NEW HAVEN			OPM conducts a weekly survey of retail heating oil prices in Connecticut. These figures reference the most recent results of that survey for the reporting week beginning September 27, 2010. Figures reflect per gallon prices without discount.					
	AVG	HIGH	LOW						
28-Sep-09	2.362	2.550	2.009						
13-Sep-10	2.658	2.890	2.389						
20-Sep-10	2.683	2.899	2.479						
27-Sep-10	2.689	2.899	2.429						

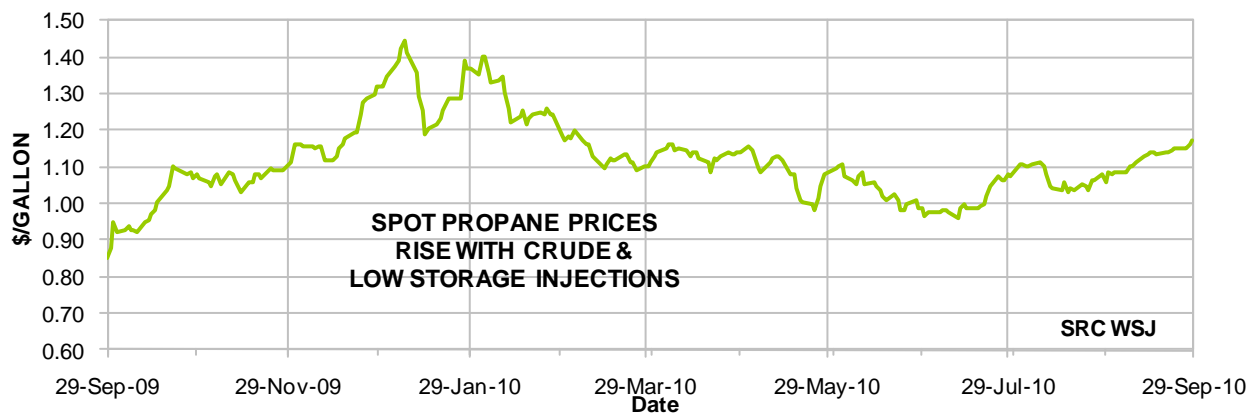
For more information, see www.ct.gov/OPM > Energy Management > Energy Price and Supply Information

Propane



After 25 consecutive weeks of inventory gains, propane inventories fell for the third straight week. After falling by 0.25 million barrels over the previous 2 weeks, they fell another 0.3 million barrels this week. The 5-year average change is a gain of 1.2 million. Although production rose by 1.3% and imports grew by 14.0%, demand rose by 6.7%. Current storage levels now trail last year's levels by 12.8% and inventories have slipped to 2.7% below the 5-year average.

Spot propane prices have been generally tracking crude oil prices. They were 2.4 cents higher this past week and up by 14.1cents over the past six weeks. Prices have fallen by 27.5 cents (19.0%) since the beginning of the year. At \$1.171 per gallon yesterday, spot prices are 32.2 cents (37.9%) higher than a year ago but 40.8% lower than their peak 2008 price. According to census data, propane is used to heat 2.7% of homes in Connecticut.



Gasoline



Gasoline inventories fell by 3.5 million barrels this past week compared to an expected gain of 0.7 million and a 5-year average gain of 1.3 million barrels. Inventories levels are 5.1% above last year and are 11.8% above the 5-year average. Stocks are at their highest level ever for this date.

Futures and spot prices continue to track crude prices. At \$2.101/gal, futures rose by 7.5 cents this week and by 16.1 cents over the past 5 weeks. They are 32.4 cents (18.2%) higher than last year. At \$2.019/gal, the spot price rose by 9.4 cents this week and by 17.7 cents over the past five. It is 37.1 cents (22.5%) higher than a year ago. Spot prices and futures prices are about 41% below their 2008 peaks. Retail prices were flat this past week as record high inventories continue to temper the impact of higher crude prices. At \$2.792/gal, retail prices are 11.4 cents (4.3%) higher than a year ago but they are 36.4% (\$1.598) below 2008's peak.

